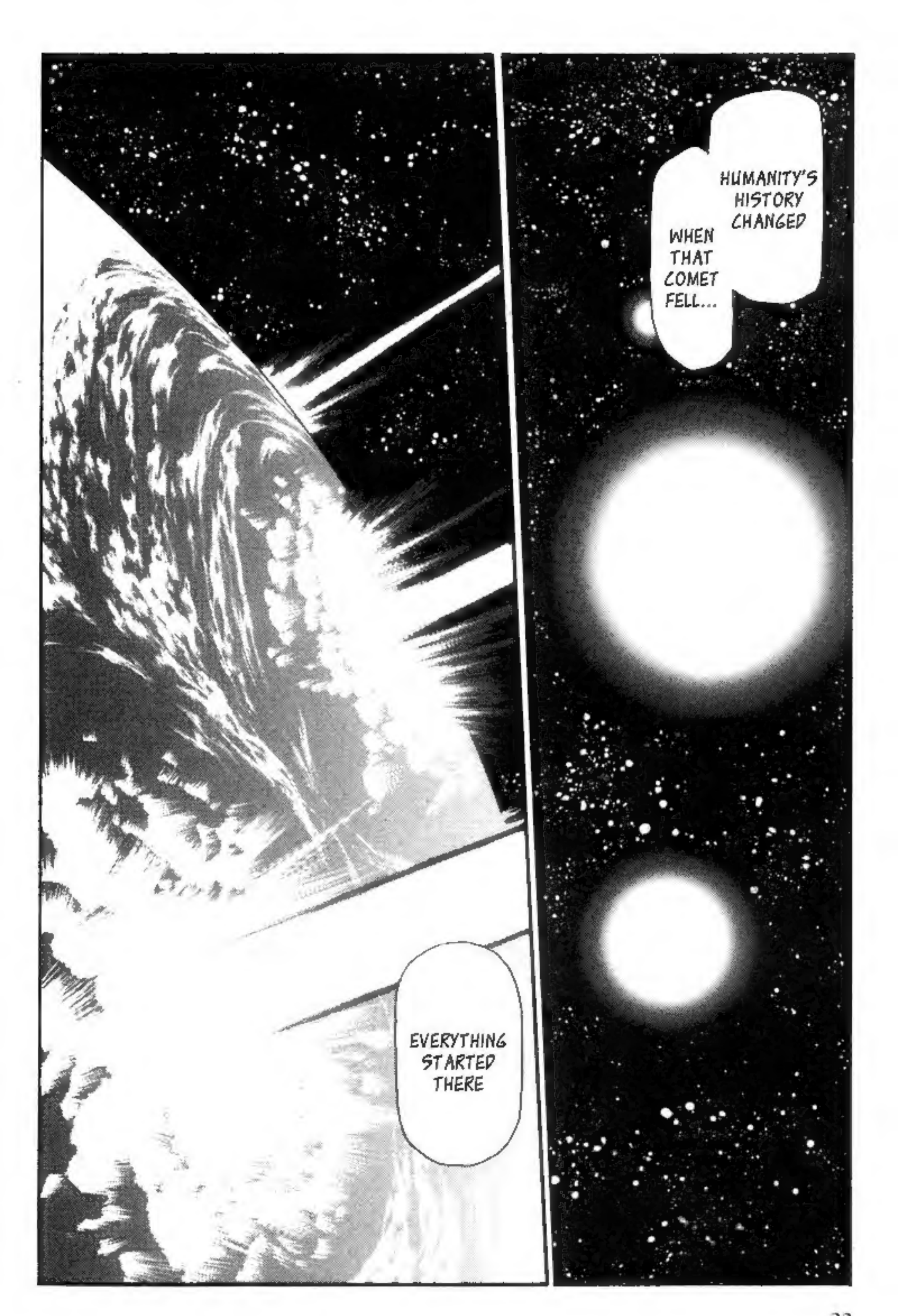

HUMANITY'S HISTORY CHANGED
WHEN THAT COMET FELL...
EVERYTHING STARTED THERE

COUNTLESS SMALLER COLLISIONS DESTROYED PARTS OF CITIES ACROSS THE WORLD, AND REDUCED 53% OF THE EARTH'S GRAIN PRODUCING REGIONS TO ASHES.

EACH FRAGMENT OF THE COMET'S CORE CAUSED AN EXPLOSION SEVERAL HUNDRED METERS WIDE... NEW YORK, BEIJING, TOKYO, ISTANBUL, CAIRO, AND OTHER SUCH CITIES WERE ALL DESTROYED.

TO THIS DAY, WE'VE STILL ONLY RECOVERED FROM LESS THAN 37% OF THE DAMAGE...

NOT JUST HUMANS, BUT EVERY LIVING THING WAS DESTROYED THAT DAY, 60 YEARS AGO...

MUM-MIES?

YES

ALL OF THE RESEARCHERS IN THE SURVEY TEAM WERE OVERCOME BY THEM.

7 YEARS AFTER THE COMET FELL... A US MILITARY SURVEY TEAM, WHILE EXAMINING THE SECOND IMPACT ZONE IN GREECE, FOUND PODS CONTAINING SIX MUMMIFIED BODIES.

THE DUST ON THE PODS, THE CORPSES, CLOTHES, THE INSIDE OF THE PODS, THE AIR, NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES WE CHECKED IT WAS ALWAYS THE SAME... THEY PROVED TO BE A THOUSAND YEARS OLD.

AS CORPS-ES

AND SO, THE BODIES INSIDE EACH POD HAD BEEN PRESERVED PERFECTLY FOR NEARLY A THOU-SAND YEARS.

DESPITE THE IMPACT FROM THE COMET'S FALL, THE PODS SOME-HOW HADN'T SUFFERED ANY DAMAGE...

HOWEVER, THEY DREW GREAT INTEREST FROM THE US GOVERNMENT AND THE MILITARY.

NO... THEY COULD ONLY REVIVE AT THE CELLULAR LEVEL

SO ...

REVIVED!? SO THOSE ARE... THE EIDRONS!?

BUT WHAT SHOCKED THE RESEARCHERS EVEN MORE, WAS HOW EASILY THE CELLS OF THE CORPSES COULD BE REVIVED.

THE RESEARCH FACILITY "MICHAEL," THE PREDECESSOR TO OUR CURRENT E-PROJECT "LUDO," RECEIVED THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE'S FULL ATTENTION.

THOSE CORPSES, AFTER THE GREEK WORD MEANING "STATUE" WERE CALLED "EIDRONS"

SEVERAL YEARS PASSED, AND THROUGH THE USE OF CLONING TECHNOLOGY, THEY WERE REBORN AS THE E-NUMBERS
OVER THE NEXT DECADE, 12 OF THE 13 BODIES HAD BEEN REBORN.
FURTHER SEARCHES RESULTED IN THE RETRIEVAL OF 13 PODS
IT WAS DURING A NORMAL EXAMINATION WHEN "S" FIRST APPEARED
THEY DIDN'T APPEAR ANY DIFFERENT FROM NORMAL HUMANS, BUT SEVERAL UNEXPLAINABLE DIFFERENCES WERE FOUND.
ITS FRAMEWORK, COMPOSITION, HOW IT APPEARED, HOW IT MOVED, EVEN WHETHER OR NOT IT WAS ALIVE WAS UNKNOWN.
WHEN NO. 1 TURNED 13, HIS BODY TRANSFORMED INTO HIS SHADOW, A TWO-LEGGED MACHINE OVER 60 METERS TALL
LIKE A ROBOT

THE STAFF, WHO HAD BEEN CALLING THE EIDRONS BY THEIR FORMAL NUMBERS, BEGAN REFERRING TO THEM BY THE TWELVE SIGNS OF THE ZODIAC, ACCORDING TO THEIR SHADOW'S SHAPE.
IT COULDN'T BE RECORDED ON FILM OR IN VIDEOS, OR VARIOUS OTHER TYPES OF MEDIA... FOR THAT REASON, IT WAS CALLED A "SHADOW"
DUE TO THE APPEARANCE OF "S", THE RESEARCH FACILITIES OF "MICHAEL" WERE CHANGED TO "LUDO," AND THE RESEARCH CONTINUED TO GROW IN SCALE.
WHETHER THEY WERE SOME ANCIENT ALIEN SCIENCE OR GOD'S APOSTLES... WE DIDN'T KNOW
BUT, AFTER TEN YEARS OF RESEARCH, NOT ONE ANSWER COULD BE FOUND. AMONG THE RESEARCHERS, SOME EVEN BEGAN SUGGESTING THE GIANTS HAD COME FROM THE TRUE BIRTHPLACE OF CHRIST.
FROM THE BEGINNING, FOR US IN THE MILITARY IT WASN'T IMPORTANT. THEIR EXISTENCE WAS A POWER FOR US TO OBTAIN.
THAT'S WHEN THE "CHRIST-MAS ISLAND TRAGEDY" OCCURRED.
SO, WITH NO RESULTS, OUR PATIENCE BEGAN TO WEAR THIN.

I'VE NOTICED... THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG WITH THE CHILDREN
PAR-LITENOS-SAN...
YES?
I KNOW IT HASN'T BEEN LONG SINCE THAT MONSTER APPEARED, BUT...
SINCE THEN ...
ANN AND RIFA DON'T GO OUTSIDE, AND JONKEI DOESN'T TALK MUCH...
SO... WHATEVER IT WAS THAT HAPPENED THAT DAY... I WANT TO KNOW

YOU SAID SOME THUGS TRIED TO KIDNAP THEM, RIGHT?

I WANT TO KNOW WHAT HAPPENED

.....

I SEE...

I CAN'T ASK YOU TO FORGET ABOUT IT, CAN I?

ONCE WE GET BACK

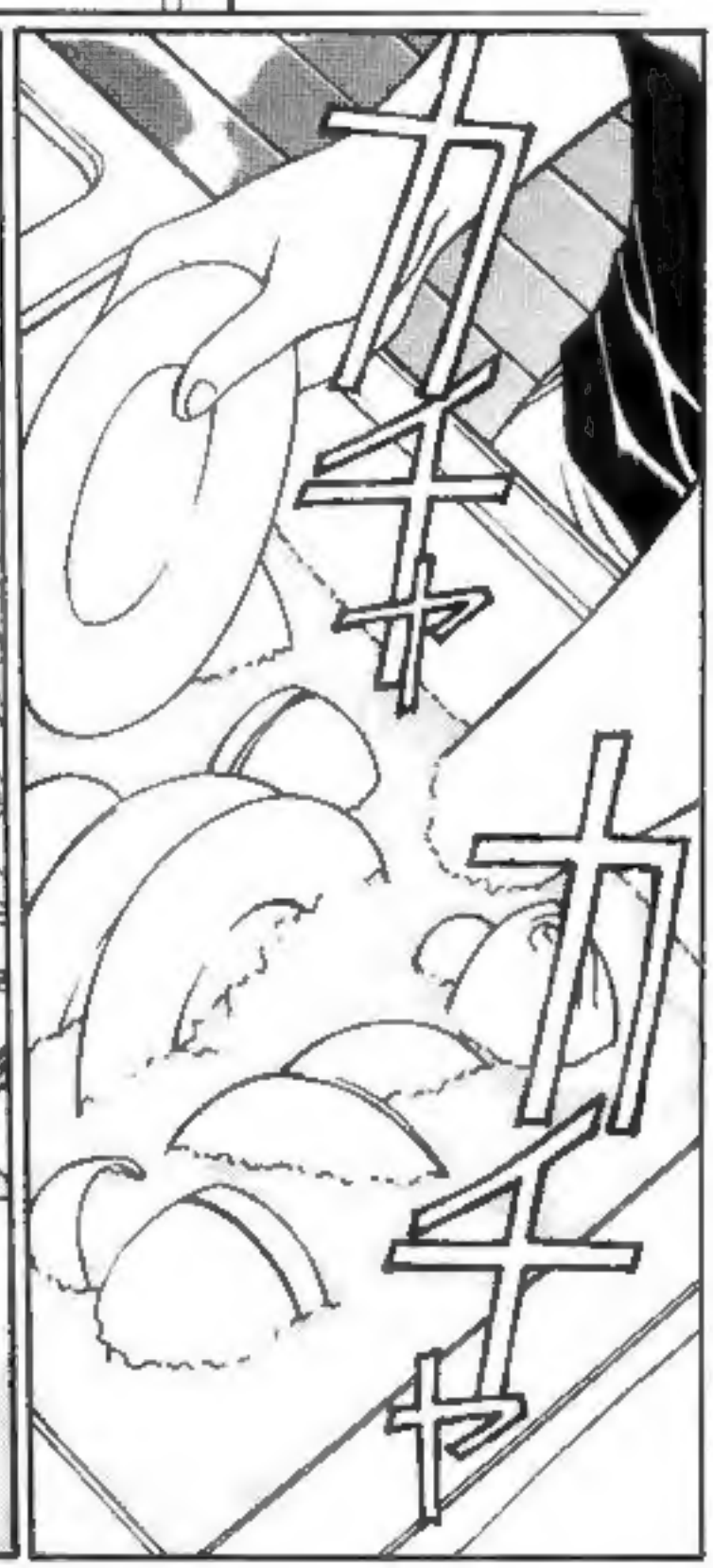
I'LL TELL YOU EVERY-THING...

HEY--! WAIT, ANN!
YOU HAVE TO GET DRESSED FIRST!
KYAAN !!
すってん!
キャっ
キャっ
RIFA OKAY?
……
ぶるるっ

HEY!
COME HELP ME WITH THE DISHES, RIFA
OKAY

MEH!
I AM
I'M SOWWRY RIFA...

EHH? AAH
I'M FROM A COUNTRY CALLED JAPAN, BUT I DON'T KNOW ANY MORE
WHERE DO YOU LIVE, KAGARI?
IN THIS TOWN?
I'M SORRY ...
カチャ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THAT'S MY PLAN FOR NOW. EVEN IF I WANTED TO GO BACK, I CAN'T LEAVE TOWN NOW
DO YOU WANT TO GO BACK?
ARE YOU GOING TO STAY HERE THEN, KAGARI...?
I LOVE YOU TOO, KAGARI
THEY'RE SO WARM... I LOVE THEM ALL
I REALLY LIKE THIS CITY AND THE PEOPLE HERE... EVERYONE'S REALLY NICE...
THOUGH I DON'T HAVE MUCH OF A CHOICE
HMM... LIVING HERE ISN'T BAD
AHH HEY, RIFA...
AH... THANKS
THEN... ANN TOO

WHO !?
!?
DONG
DONG
HUH ?
EXCUSE ME, I HEARD I COULD FIND PARUTENOS HERE